



For Release: Monday, March 20, 2017

17-329-CHI

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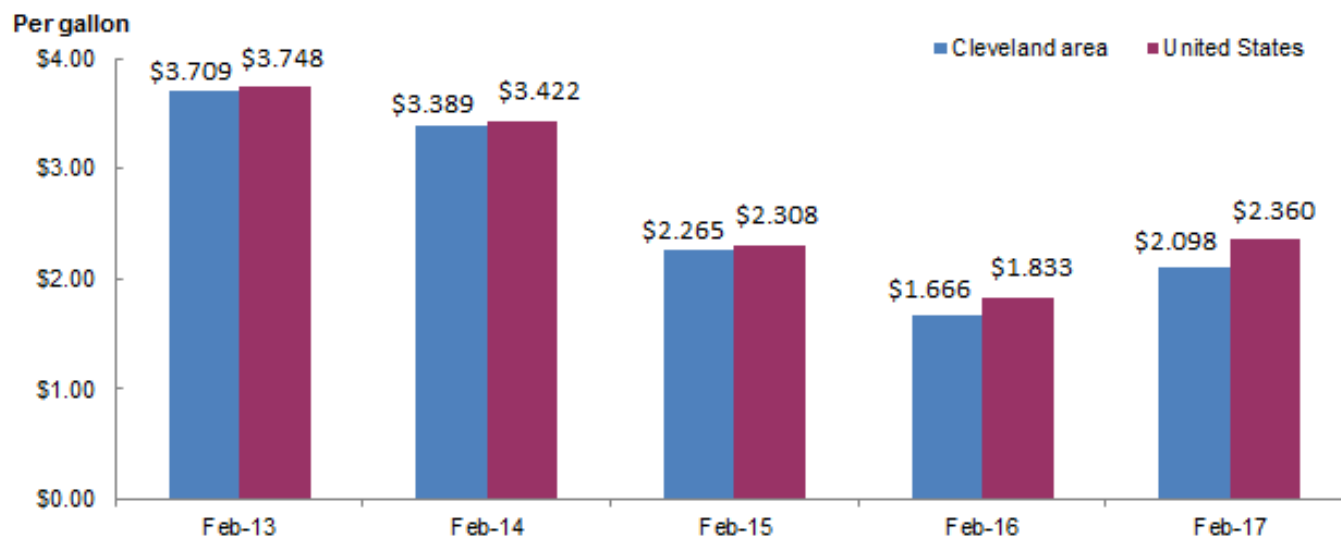
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Average Energy Prices, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain — February 2017

Gasoline prices averaged \$2.098 a gallon in the Cleveland-Akron-Lorain area in February 2017, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that area gasoline prices were up 43.2 cents compared to February 2016 when they averaged \$1.666 per gallon. Cleveland area households paid an average of 12.0 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) of electricity in February 2017, 13.0 percent lower than the 13.8 cents per kWh paid in February 2016. Utility (piped) gas averaged 71.4 cents per therm in February, up from its average price of 53.9 cents per therm a year earlier. (Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year-analysis is used throughout.)

At \$2.098 a gallon, costs for gasoline in the Cleveland area were 26.2 cents lower than the national average of \$2.360 in February 2017. With the exception of February 2016, when Cleveland area gasoline prices were lower than the national average by 16.7 cents, Cleveland gasoline prices in the previous four years (2013-2016) in February were comparable to the national average. (See [chart 1.](#))

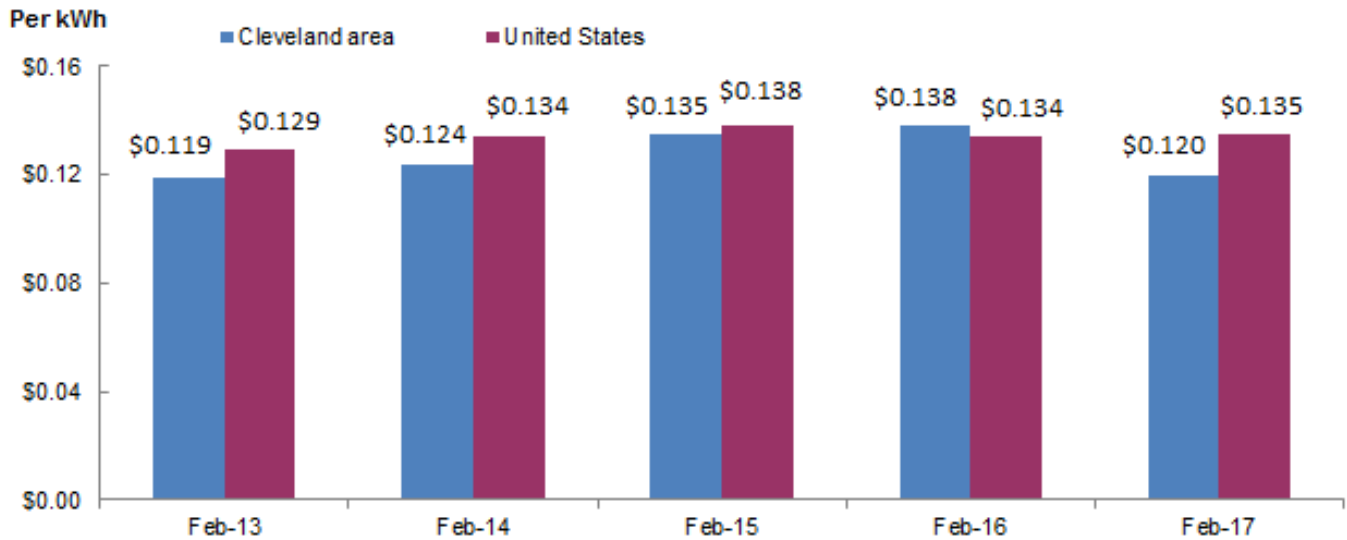
Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain and the United States, 2013-2017 (as of February)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 12.0 cents per kWh Cleveland households paid for electricity in February 2017 was 11.1 percent lower than the nationwide average of 13.5 cents during this same period. In February 2015 and 2016, Cleveland electricity costs were comparable to the national average. In February 2013 and 2014, costs for electricity in the Cleveland area were 7.8 percent and 7.5 percent less, respectively. (See [chart 2.](#))

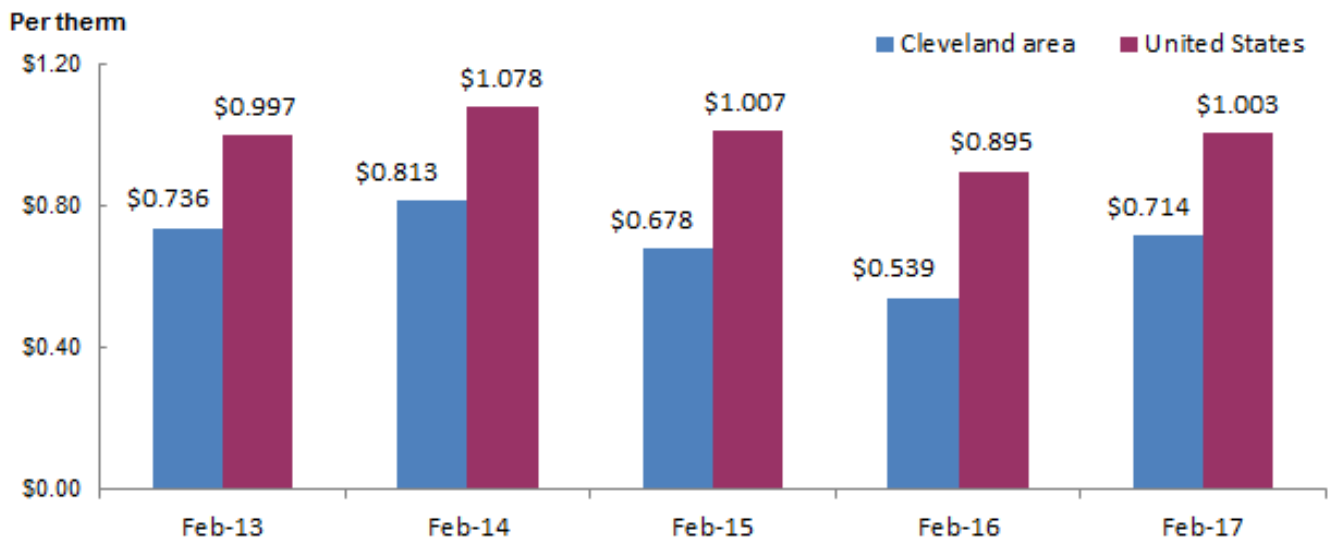
Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain and the United States, 2013-2017 (as of February)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Prices paid by Cleveland area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, at 71.4 cents per therm, were 28.8 percent below the national average of \$1.003 per therm in February 2017. Utility (piped) gas prices in the Cleveland area were also lower than the national average in the prior four years (2013-2016) in February, ranging from 24.6 percent lower in 2014 to 39.8 percent in 2016. (See [chart 3.](#))

Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain and the United States, 2013-2017 (as of February)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The **Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, Ohio, Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area** consists of Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage and Summit Counties in Ohio.

Historical average energy prices for the U.S. and select metropolitan areas are available at www.bls.gov/regions/midwest/data/averageenergyprices_selectedareas_table.htm.

The Consumer Price Index for March 2017 is scheduled to be released on Friday, April 14, 2017.

Technical Note

Average prices are estimated from Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for selected commodity series to support the research and analytic needs of CPI data users. Average prices for electricity, utility (piped) gas, and gasoline are published monthly for the U.S. city average, the 4 regions, the 3 population size classes, 10 region/size-class cross-classifications, and the 14 largest local index areas. For electricity, average prices per kilowatt-hour (kWh) are published. For utility (piped) gas, average prices per therm are published. For gasoline, the average price per gallon is published. Average prices for commonly available grades of gasoline are published as well as the average price across all grades.

All eligible prices are converted to a price per normalized quantity. These prices are then used to estimate a price for a defined fixed quantity. The average price per kilowatt-hour represents the total bill divided by the kilowatt-hour usage. The total bill is the sum of all items applicable to all consumers appearing on an electricity bill including, but not limited to, variable rates per kWh, fixed costs, taxes, surcharges, and credits. This calculation also applies to the average price per therm for utility (piped) gas.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain and the United States, February 2016 – February 2017, not seasonally adjusted

Year and month	Gasoline per gallon		Electricity per kWh		Utility (piped) gas per therm	
	Cleveland area	United States	Cleveland area	United States	Cleveland area	United States
2016						
February	\$1.666	\$1.833	\$0.138	\$0.134	\$0.539	\$0.895
March	1.980	2.021	0.139	0.134	0.519	0.884
April	2.136	2.196	0.139	0.134	0.487	0.879
May	2.368	2.324	0.139	0.133	0.503	0.877
June	2.532	2.422	0.130	0.138	0.516	0.891
July	2.270	2.287	0.127	0.139	0.531	0.931
August	2.155	2.218	0.127	0.139	0.615	0.943
September	2.161	2.269	0.119	0.139	0.596	0.954
October	2.135	2.304	0.120	0.134	0.616	0.961
November	2.079	2.246	0.119	0.131	0.620	0.970
December	2.153	2.289	0.116	0.133	0.617	0.972
2017						
January	2.251	2.409	0.120	0.134	0.667	1.000
February	2.098	2.360	0.120	0.135	0.714	1.003